

IEN Quarterly

Highlights of Network News and Events

Indoor Environments Network (IEN)

July-September, 2002

AROUND THE NETWORK:

- **Pilot Projects Address Asthma in Native American Communities**

Under a cooperative agreement with the U.S. EPA's Indoor Environments Division (IED), the Intertribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) and the Indian Health Service (IHS) are initiating five pilot projects that address the diverse indoor environmental triggers and health effects associated with asthma in Native American populations. Project activities will consist of on-site asthma education workshops as well as the creation of culturally competent asthma and indoor air outreach materials for Native American populations. The pilots are located in New Mexico, Montana, and Arizona.

ITCA and IHS are conducting two training workshops currently scheduled for July 9 and mid-September, 2002, in Phoenix, Arizona. Both workshops will assist Tribal health care providers and indoor air professionals in utilizing asthma management techniques to properly identify indoor environmental triggers and their remedies.

Based on the success of the pilots, other Tribal communities may be approached in the future.

For further details on these projects please contact Chris Griffin at 202-564-9421 or griffin.chris@epa.gov. You may also visit EPA's website www.epa.gov/iaq for more information on indoor air quality and asthma.

- **Inter-American Air Quality Day – A GREAT Opportunity for Local Activities**

Dedicated to raising consciousness across all of the countries of the Americas, this will be a day for informing the general public about how they can act both locally and regionally to improve the air in their surroundings. The 50,000-member Inter-American Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (AIDIS) is hosting the first ever **Inter-American Air Quality Day**, to take place on Friday, August 9, 2002.

According to the World Health Organization, acute respiratory infection, mostly in the form of pneumonia, is the leading cause of death in children under five, killing over two million children annually worldwide. In nearly every case acute respiratory infections are caused or made worse by air pollution – both indoors and outdoors.

AIDIS believes that the vast majority of the population in the Americas does not know that air pollution causes ill health effects. Consider sponsoring an event on August 9, 2002, in your community or with your partners to spread the word about clean air. If your organization plans to sponsor activities, please let AIDIS know by contacting them at aidispr@coqui.net. AIDIS will list events on its electronic newsletter, which you can subscribe to at www.e-aidis.org.

IAQ PUBLICATIONS AND PRODUCTS:



"Here's the Pitch" poster
(Item #402-H-02-001)

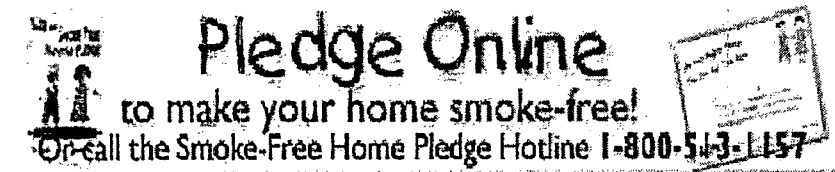
"Take the Smoke-free Home Pledge" Campaign Achieves New Success

In the month of April, two exciting milestones spurred new success for the "Take the Smoke-free Home Pledge" campaign. The Major League Baseball season guide featured a full-page print public service announcement (PSA) called "*Here's the Pitch*" which had President Bush pitching the first ball for the season. The PSA directed readers to take the smoke-free pledge by calling the hotline or by visiting EPA's homepage.

Along with the PSA, the Indoor Environments Division launched 2 online pledge sites www.epa.gov/smokefree and www.epa.gov/smokefree/pledge/index.html.

This site enables the public to quickly and easily make their commitment to providing a smoke-free home environment. Visitors can pledge by simply entering their zip code and can download a pledge certificate to display in their home. In less than two months since the launch, the pledge page had more than 1,000 hits and received over 400 pledges!

Online banner ad seen on
www.epa.gov/smokefree
that links visitors to the pledge page.



We suggest you encourage your field affiliates, local chapters, or other contacts to educate the public about indoor air quality and environmental tobacco smoke with "Here's the Pitch" posters and "Take the Smoke-Free Home Pledge" posters and brochures. To order supplies, please call the IAQ Clearinghouse at 1-800-438-4318 or order online at <http://www.epa.gov/iaq/pubs/index.html>.

Thank you for your continued support on the "Take the Smoke-free Home Pledge" campaign and protecting childrens' health.



"Take the Smoke-Free Home Pledge" brochure
(Item #402-K-00-004)

IAQ PUBLICATIONS AND PRODUCTS (continued):

- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to issue the final report, ***Healthy Buildings, Healthy People: A Vision for the 21st Century***, which envisions the future of indoor environmental quality. In preparing *Healthy Buildings, Healthy People*, EPA sought the advice of many, both within the Agency and outside, to develop the vision, goals, guiding principles, and potential actions presented in the report. *Healthy Buildings, Healthy People* lays out a blueprint by which agencies and individuals across the country, and around the world, can focus their efforts towards improvements in the indoor environment and health.

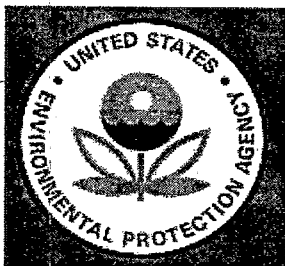
To obtain a copy of *Healthy Buildings, Healthy People: A Vision for the 21st Century*, (document EPA-402-K-01-003), visit the EPA web site at www.epa.gov/iaq/hbhp or contact the Indoor Air Quality Information Clearinghouse (IAQ- INFO) at 1-800-438-4318.

- **How to Order Media Campaigns:** EPA has set up a very easy one-step way to view and order PSAs, video news releases, and radon collateral items. All three media campaigns (asthma, secondhand smoke, and radon) are displayed and available on-line <http://www.epapsa.com>.

Special Note: *This site is for EPA stakeholders, partners, states, non-profits and Regions who will promote and use our media products – NOT the general public. Please use Internet Explorer to get to this website. Netscape is incompatible with the system used to send on-line orders via the web.*

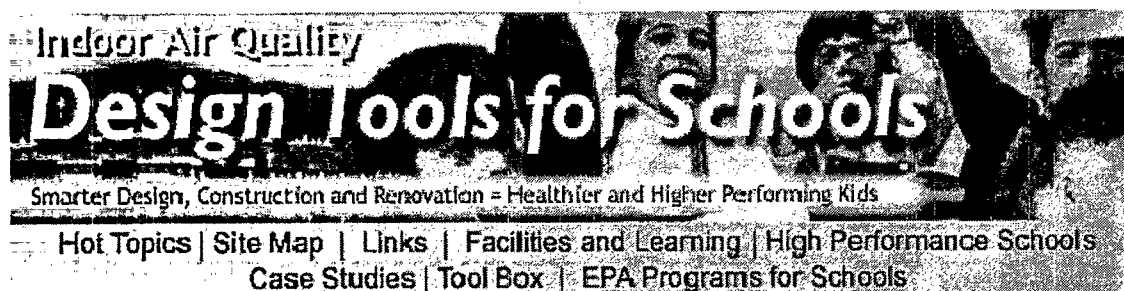
UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Join us for the **3rd Annual Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools National Symposium**, August 8-10, 2002, Washington, DC – contact your National Indoor Air Cooperative Partner and visit <http://www.epa.gov/iaq/schools>.
- **National Radon Action Week**, October 20-26, 2002 – contact your National IAQ Partner and visit <http://www.epa.gov/iaq/radon/nraw/index.html> for activity ideas.



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IAQ PUBLICATIONS AND PRODUCTS (continued):



Indoor Air Quality
Design Tools for Schools

Some 55 million Americans (52 million children) spend a substantial portion of their days in approximately 110,000 public and private primary and secondary schools. In order to reduce overcrowding, account for class size reduction mandates, and keep pace with surging population growth, it is estimated that 6000 new schools will need to be built by 2007. The critical need for more seats often overshadows the 60,000 existing schools in dire need of some type of repair, renovation, expansion, or modernization. (GAO, 1995)

In order to assist local communities in designing, constructing and renovating schools so that they provide healthy and safe learning environments, EPA's Indoor Environment's Division has developed new web-based voluntary guidance addressing indoor air quality issues.

The draft web pages are available for public comment through July 19, 2002. Individuals and organizations interested in reviewing the site can visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/iaq/schooldesign/start.html>

Comments should be emailed to axelrad.bob@epa.gov

IAQ Design Tools for Schools is intended to help school districts meet one of the many challenges they face: how to provide school facilities that help rather than hinder schools in their core mission of educating children.

IAQ Design Tools for Schools provides useful information for **school personnel, architects and engineers, builders and contractors, parents and the community** on key school construction and renovation issues such as:

- **incorporating high performance building goals into the design process**
- **controlling pollutants and sources**
- **selection and design of heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems**
- **moisture control to prevent mold and damage to building materials and systems**
- **mold remediation**
- **portable classrooms**
- **renovation of existing schools, and more.**

IAQ Design Tools for Schools includes the new **School Advanced Ventilation Engineering Software (SAVES)** package, a tool to help school designers assess the potential financial payback and indoor humidity control benefits of Energy Recovery Ventilation (ERV) systems for school applications.